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Dr. W. S. W. Ruschenberger. Three species of shells from Apia, Island of Upolu, Navigators' Group.

John H. Redfield. Twenty-eight species of post-pliocene shells, from California.

S. R. Roberts. *Anodonta implicata*, Say, and *A. fluviatilis*, Dillw.

R. Swift Fund. Thirty-six species of post-pliocene fossil shells, from California.

G. W. Tryon, Jr. Eighteen species of Californian post-pliocene shells.

Wm. S. Vaux. One hundred and eighty species of post-pliocene and cretaceous shells, from California.

L. C. Wooster. Three species of land shells, from the alluvium of Cache-la-poudre River, Greely, Colorado.

The officers of the Section for 1879 are :—

*Director* . . . . W. S. W. Ruschenberger.

*Vice Director* . . . . John Ford.

*Recorder* . . . . S. Raymond Roberts.

*Secretary* . . . . E. R. Beadle.

*Treasurer* . . . . Wm. M. Mactier.

*Librarian* . . . . Edw. J. Nolan.

*Conservator* . . . . Geo. W. Tryon, Jr.

Respectfully submitted,

S. RAYMOND ROBERTS,

*Recorder.*

## REPORT OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SECTION.

During the year that has elapsed since the last annual meeting of the Academy, the Entomological Section has regularly held its monthly meetings, with the exceptions of those of July and August, a recess having been taken from June to September. The meetings generally were quite interesting, on account of the numerous verbal communications made. These remarks have been principally directed towards the illustration of generic and specific forms of the families of various orders of insects, and as illustrated by blackboard drawings were calculated to render much assistance to the student.

During the year the Entomological Section has lost two of its

members by death, viz., Mr. Robert Frazer, formerly President of the American Entomological Society, and Mr. Edward Tatnall. The private collection of the latter gentleman has been placed in the care of the American Entomological Society, which purposes to make use of the same, as a nucleus for the formation of a general collection for exhibition in the Museum of the Academy, if proper accommodations can be obtained. Such a collection must necessarily be solely for display, as it would be neither expedient nor safe to expose a valuable collection, such as is now contained in the cabinet of the Entomological Society, to the dangers of destruction.

Owing to the failure of the invested fund of the American Entomological Society to produce so large an income as in previous years, the Society has been compelled to limit its expenditures to a much smaller amount. Consequently the publications have not been so large as they otherwise would have been. Only five written communications, therefore, have been passed by the Publication Committee. Four of these contained descriptions of Coleoptera, by Dr. George H. Horn, and the other descriptions of Hymenoptera, by Mr. E. T. Cresson.

In the month of September, with consent of the Council, an extra heat coil was placed in the room occupied by the Section, the latter bearing the expense thereof.

Much time and labor have been devoted, during the past year, to the improvement of the collections. This is particularly noticeable in the collection of Hymenoptera, which has greatly increased by the addition of new and rare species derived more especially from Colorado and Nevada. The collection of Hymenoptera now within the walls of the Academy is, beyond all doubt, the finest and most valuable of that order in America, and is probably the best collection of North American species to be found in the world.

Great advances have also been made in filling up vacancies in the orders of Coleoptera and Lepidoptera, and the collections of both have been rendered more valuable.

New methods have been adopted, by which the drawers of the cabinets may be readily fumigated, and it is hoped by the greater facility thus obtained of reaching all specimens, the loss from infection will be greatly diminished.

The remains of the original collection of the Academy have also

been attended to by the members in charge, and the loss from decay greatly lessened. This collection had already suffered to such an extent, that when it came under the supervision of the Section it was found to be of but little or no value as a scientific collection. What typical specimens it ever contained that were of special importance had been destroyed or transferred to other places, and the remainder was on a sure course of destruction for want of care. Under these circumstances the Section placed it under lock and key, and while bestowing upon it all the care of which it is in need, reserves it for use in the museum with such other specimens as may, from time to time, be added thereto.

When it is considered that the gentlemen who have in charge the Entomological Collection now in this building, have no leisure from their daily avocation, and are compelled to devote their evenings to the work, it will be realized that progress must necessarily be slow; but, for the first time in the history of the Academy, the collection is now safe beyond depredations of any sort.

At the meeting of the Entomological Section, held December 9th, the following named persons were elected officers for the year 1879.

<i>Director</i>	.	.	.	.	.	John L. LeConte, M.D.
<i>Vice Director</i>	.	.	.	.	.	George H. Horn, M.D.
<i>Recorder</i>	.	.	.	.	.	J. H. Ridings.
<i>Treasurer</i>	.	.	.	.	.	E. T. Cresson.
<i>Publication Committee</i>	.	.	.	.	.	George H. Horn, M.D. Samuel Lewis, M.D.

All of which is respectfully presented,

J. H. RIDINGS,

*Recorder Ent. Sect.*

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#### REPORT OF THE BOTANICAL SECTION.

The vice director of the Botanical Section has pleasure in reporting to the Academy that the work of this department has been very satisfactory during the past year, considering the means at its command. One member has resigned during the year, and four elected, making a list of thirty-two at the present time.

The Recorder's report shows that meetings have been held every